

Appln. No. 10/529,336
 Amendment dated November 30, 2006
 Reply to Office Action of August 30, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 10 and 14 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended). An electrical connector comprising a housing having a plurality of terminal accommodating holes for accommodating a plurality of connecting terminals connected to distal ends of electric wires and a plurality of locking arms each of which is engaged with a respective one of said connecting terminals not to remove backwardly, and a front holder which is engaged with a front portion of the housing and includes a plurality of terminal inserting holes through which cooperating connecting terminals are to be inserted and a plurality of arm pushing portions each of which is urged against a respective one of said locking arms to enhance a locking force of the locking arms, wherein said front holder has formed therein

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a plurality of arm operating holes through each of which a jig
for operating the locking arms is to be inserted, and a plurality
15 of said terminal inserting holes independently, said front holder
is movable lineally in a plane parallel to a front surface of
said housing with respect to said housing in a direction along an
axial line between said terminal inserting holes and said arm
operating holes corresponding to a first position and a second
20 position; in said first position of the front holder, said
plurality of locking arms are pushed toward connecting terminals
by said plurality of arm pushing portions and said plurality of
terminal inserting holes are aligned with said plurality of
connecting terminals such that an electrical connection between
25 the connecting terminals and cooperating electrical terminals is
attained by engaging a cooperating housing; and in said second
position of the front holder, said front holder is temporarily
engaged with said housing, said front holder releases arm pushing
portions of said locking arms, said plurality of terminal
30 inserting holes are shifted out of the axial lines of the
connecting terminals installed within the housing, said plurality
of arm operating holes are aligned with said plurality of locking
arms, and said plurality of arm pushing portions are removed from
said plurality of locking arms such that a locking operation of a

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- 35 locking arm is released by inserting the jig into an arm operating hole and a connecting terminal can be removed from a terminal accommodating hole.

Claims 11-12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented). The electrical connector according to claim 10, wherein said front holder has formed therein a plurality of terminal pushing portions which push said connecting terminals backward to engage said plurality of locking arms with said plurality of connecting terminals in the axial direction without play when said front holder is moved from said second position into said first position.

- 5 Claim 14 (Currently Amended). ~~[[The]]~~ An electrical connector according to claim 13 comprising a housing having a plurality of terminal accommodating holes for accommodating a plurality of connecting terminals connected to distal ends of electric wires and a plurality of locking arms each of which is engaged with a respective one of said connecting terminals not to remove backwardly, and a front holder which is engaged with a front portion of the housing and includes a plurality of terminal

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10 inserting holes through which cooperating connecting terminals
are to be inserted and a plurality of arm pushing portions each
of which is urged against a respective one of said locking arms
to enhance a locking force of the locking arms, wherein said
front holder has formed therein a plurality of arm operating
15 holes through each of which a jig for operating the locking arms
is to be inserted, said front holder is movable with respect to
said housing in a direction along an axial line between said
terminal inserting holes and said arm operating holes
corresponding to a first position and a second position; in said
first position of the front holder, said plurality of locking
20 arms are pushed toward connecting terminals by said plurality of
arm pushing portions and said plurality of terminal inserting
holes are aligned with said plurality of connecting terminals
such that an electrical connection between the connecting
terminals and cooperating electrical terminals is attained by
25 engaging a cooperating housing; and in said second position of
the front holder, said front holder is temporarily engaged with
said housing, said plurality of terminal inserting holes are
shifted out of the axial lines of the connecting terminals
installed within the housing, said plurality of arm operating
30 holes are aligned with said plurality of locking arms, and said

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plurality of arm pushing portions are removed from said plurality of locking arms such that a locking operation of a locking arm is released by inserting the jig into an arm operating hole and a connecting terminal can be removed from a terminal accommodating hole,

35 wherein said front holder has formed therein a plurality of terminal pushing portions which push said connecting terminals backward to engage said plurality of locking arms with said plurality of connecting terminals in the axial direction without
40 play when said front holder is moved from said second position into said first position, and

wherein each of said terminal pushing portions includes an inclined portion by means of which each of said connecting terminals is gradually pushed backward.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented). The electrical connector according to claim 10, wherein in said first position, said front holder is engaged with said housing by means of a locking member.